

FACT SHEET

June 15, 2001



St. Louis Ozone Update

EPA APPROVES STATES' CLEAN AIR PLANS FOR ST. LOUIS AREA

TODAY'S ACTION

- ☐ EPA is approving Missouri's and Illinois' plans for attaining the health-based national ambient air quality standard for ozone (smog) in the St. Louis area, and is extending the area's Clean Air Act deadline for meeting the standard to November 15, 2004.
- ☐ In view of the extension, EPA is withdrawing its March 19, 2001, determination that the St. Louis area missed its Clean Air Act attainment date, which would have resulted in reclassification of the area as a "serious" nonattainment area. This means that the St. Louis area will retain its "moderate" classification, and that additional local control measures required for "serious" areas will not be triggered at this time.
- ☐ EPA is extending the St. Louis area's attainment date because part of the area's smog problem results from transported emissions from upwind states. To combat regional ozone pollution in the eastern half of the United States, EPA is requiring 19 states to reduce smog-forming nitrogen oxides. This regional strategy – known as the NO_x SIP Call – will help reduce smog levels in the St. Louis area by 2004.
- ☐ EPA has determined that the plans submitted by Missouri and Illinois include sufficient control measures to demonstrate that the St. Louis area will attain the national ambient air quality standard for ozone by November 2004. Both states have adopted numerous local pollution control measures, as well as statewide measures to cut power plant emissions, that will help to reduce smog levels in the St. Louis area.
- ☐ The St. Louis nonattainment area includes Madison, Monroe, and St. Clair counties in Illinois; and the city of St. Louis and Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles and St. Louis counties in Missouri.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Additional information regarding EPA's actions can be obtained by contacting Edward Doty, EPA Region 5 - Chicago, IL at (312) 886-6057; or Lynn Slugantz, EPA Region 7 - Kansas City, KS at (913) 551-7883.

